

February 25, 2016

Processing Strawberry Advisory Board 2016 Assessment Rate Set at \$0.00086/pound

To All California Strawberry Processors:

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (Department), upon the recommendation of the Processing Strawberry Advisory Board (PSAB), has set the 2016 PSAB assessment rate at \$0.00086 per pound of strawberries (or equivalent) received by processors during the 2016 calendar year. This year's assessment rate is higher than last year's rate which was \$0.00057 per pound.

This rate applies to all fresh strawberries and previously processed strawberries received by a processor and utilized for processing into strawberry products; provided however that no processor shall be required to pay an assessment upon strawberries for which this assessment has been previously paid.

Please note that this per pound assessment is intended to cover the PSAB's administrative costs. It is separate from the PSAB hourly inspection fee which is used to fund the PSAB's mandatory incoming strawberry inspections. The PSAB's 2016 hourly inspection fee will be \$24.50 per hour.

Assessments should be remitted directly to the PSAB office. The PSAB will provide assessment forms and instructions. For further information regarding the PSAB assessment, please call Gabe Moreno, Manager of the PSAB, at 831-724-5454. You may also call Dennis Manderfield of this office at 916-900-5018.

Sincerely,

Robert Maxie, Chief Marketing Branch

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